Violation of Rules to Favour Private Firms

6058. SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH:
SHRI ANANT RAM JAISWAL:
SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALVIYA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the news-item which appeared in the Indian Express dated 21st April, 1995 under the caption "Rules violated to favour Private Firm", and

(b) if so, what is the reaction of Government with regard thereto and what action Government have decided to take against the key person of the Central Board of Excise and Customs responsible for this act stating the time limit, if any, for taking decision in this case?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As no favour has been extended to the firm nor any rules violated in that regard it is not proposed to take any action against any official of the Central Board of Excise and Customs.

Meeting of INDO-US Economic|Commercial Sum-Commission

6059. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indo-US Economic|Commercial Sub-Commission met recently in New Delhi; and

(b) if so, the details thereof including the worn programme of the Sub-Commission?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY): (a) and (b) The meeting of the Indo-US Economic and Commercial Sub-Commission was held at New Delhi on 10th April, 1995. At this meeting issues relating to bilateral economic and commercial relatios between India and USA were discussed. It was decided that the initial work programme of the Sub-Commission will focus on meeting India's infrastructure needs. The discussions also focussed on the opportunities for increasing US Investments in India particularly in the core infrastructure sectors. After discussions, the Sub-Commission decided to set up three Working Groups on (a) Finance and Investment (b) Trade and Commerce and (c) the Joint Private Sector Working Group which will further deliberate on measures for facilitating stronger and closer economic and commercial relationship between two countries. It was also decided that the recommendations of these Working Groups will be considered by the Sub-Commission at its next meeting.

CAG on CBDT

6060. SHRI V. RAJESHWAR RAO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Comptroller and Auditor General of India has pointed out in para 1.5 of his Report No. 5 of 1995 that there is immense delay on the part of the Central Board of Direct Taxes to give their response to the "Draft Paragraphs" of Audit Observation;

(b) whether there is a tendency to disregard the CAG;

(c) what action is being taken to reduce such delays; and

(d) what action is being taken against errant officers?